

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 PM-04 L-03 INR-07 SP-02 /039 W

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R 040915Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6009

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 10221

STADIS//////////

FOR UNDER SECRETARY HABIB

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, ID

SUBJECT: INDONESIAN REQUEST FOR BRIEFING ON STANDARD MISSILE
SYSTEM

REF: STATE 190509

1. I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR PERSONAL REVIEW OF DENIAL OF
INDONESIAN REQUEST FOR POSSIBLE ACCESS TO STANDARD MISSILE
SYSTEM WHICH WAS CONVEYED TO US BY REFTEL.

2. WHILE APPRECIATING SENSITIVITY OF FURTHER DISSEMINATION
SUCH SYSTEMS, IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING KOREANS POSSESS
STANDARD MISSILES AS DO POSSIBLY OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. YOU
CAN UNDERSTAND MY APPREHENSION THAT THERE WILL BE STRONG
INDONESIAN REACTION IF WE MAINTAIN THIS DENIAL. OUR CLOSE
RELATIONS WITH INDONESIAN NAVY, IN PARTICULAR, WOULD SUFFER.
AT MINIMUM I WOULD WISH TO BE CERTAIN THAT SECRETARY, WHO
HAS TAKEN STRONG AND EFFECTIVE PERSONAL INTEREST IN
MILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR INDONESIA, IS AWARE OF DEPARTMENT'S
POSITION.

3. INDONESIANS WISH SYSTEM FOR THREE CORVETTES BEING BUILT
IN NETHERLANDS AND POSSIBLY FOR FOUR OTHER PATROL CRAFT TO
BE BUILT IN EITHER KOREA OR U.S. THEY HAVE APPROACHES FROM
REPRESENTATIVES OF OTOMAT (ITALIAN) AND EXOCET (FRENCH)
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SYSTEMS. HANKAM LEANS TOWARD STANDARD MISSILE SYSTEMS

BECAUSE OF FAITH IN RELIABILITY OF U.S. PRODUCTS, COST
ADVANTAGES, AND MISSILES DUAL CAPABILITY.

4. WE HAVE DISCOURAGED INDONESIAN APPLICATION FOR MORE
SOPHISTICATED HARPOON SYSTEM, HOPING THEIR REQUIREMENTS
COULD BE MET BY STANDARD SYSTEM. DEPARTMENT'S REPLY OFFERS
NO ALTERNATIVE TO EITHER THAT WE COULD OFFER INDONESIANS
TO MEET CLEAR REQUIREMENT TO MATCH SOPHISTICATED CAPABILITY
OF NEARBY COMMUNIST POWERS.

5. IF WE ATTACH IMPORTANCE AND CONFIDENCE TO INDONESIA,
WHICH WE SOUGHT TO IMPLY DURING WASHINGTON DISCUSSIONS,
HERE IS OPPORTUNITY TO DEMONSTRATE IT.
NEWSOM

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